CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY:
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14TH NOVEMBER 2017:

President Richard West opened the meeting at 19.45 hours on 14th November 2017 and welcomed the 17 members present. He introduced the speaker **Geoff Hanney** and invited him to give his presentation on **Haiti.**

Haiti is a Caribbean country that shares the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic to its east. It was originally claimed for Spain by Christopher Columbus and then ceded to France in 1625 before gaining independence.

The presentation showed the stamps of Haiti including the Liberty Head Issue, the first stamps issued in 1881. Die proofs, imperf.set, variety of perforations, essays, specimens and blocks were all on show. In addition, there were a variety of letters, the earliest piece of mail being 1772. The display also contained a number of forgeries. Commemorative sets were shown for example of butterflies, orchids, marine life and the Red Cross. One feature of the presentation was the number of flight cover in the early part of the 20th century. A large number of the covers were of internal mail but with a few to other countries such as Venezuela and Jamaica.

The stamps of Haiti were not well known by many members before the presentation and therefore members enjoyed the opportunity to view the material. Following a vote of thanks the meeting closed at 21.30 hours.

15.11.17
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Graham Harker, Honorary Assistant Secretary